



TARIFF FOR REVENUE, INCIDENTAL PROTECTION AND SOUND MONEY.

CORVALLIS, BENTON COUNTY, OREGON, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1897.

NO. 25.

NEWS OF THE WEEK

From all Parts of the New and Old World.

BRIEF AND INTERESTING ITEMS

Comprehensive Review of the Important Happenings of the Current Week.

A French expedition is reported massacred.

The Chinese are endeavoring to settle matters with Germany.

The Chichasaw and Cherokee Indians are to colonize in Mexico.

A vessel has sailed from Portsmouth, N. H., for the Klondike.

The National Guard asks for an appropriation of \$2,000,000.

There is a possibility of a rate war between Western railroads.

A party has left San Francisco to survey a new route to the Klondike.

San Francisco merchants are being prosecuted for selling adulterated olive oil.

At Salinas, Cal., two burglars cleverly jailed the jailer and a deputy sheriff.

A tremendous gold strike is reported on Dog creek, a tributary of the Yukon.

The son of a New York millionaire died in the county hospital in San Francisco.

The Georgia senate wants to send state convicts to Cuba to fight for the insurgents.

Senator Perkins has introduced a joint resolution authorizing the president to appoint a committee to draft a code of laws for the territory of Alaska.

The man who helped hang Frank Butler, the "murderer of the mountains," in Australia, was arrested in San Francisco, accused of larceny of a coat.

One of the most horrible lynchings ever known in Nevada has occurred at Genoa, 14 miles from Carson. Aram Uber, who last week shot and killed Hans Anderson in a Millerville saloon, was taken by a mob of masked men and hanged to a cottonwood tree half a mile from the jail. When taken from his cell, the victim had nothing on but a shirt. This was torn off by the lynchers, and the nude body was left dangling in the air for six hours. As the body was being pulled up the mob killed it with bullets. When satisfied that the man was dead the vigilantes dispersed and returned to their homes.

E. L. Hewes, the Wichita mountain boomer, who has been at Wichita for three weeks trying to organize a party, has left for Oklahoma City without a single follower. At different times he claimed to have from 500 to 1,000 boomers ready to follow his lead into the country.

Toru Hoshi, envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary from Japan to the United States, was a passenger from the Orient on the City of Peking, which has just arrived in San Francisco. He will leave for Washington at once carrying with him instructions in reference to the Hawaiian treaty of annexation which will be considered by the United States senate.

When the German reinforcements, consisting of four companies of marines, numbering 23 officers and 1,200 men, and a company of naval artillery, arrive at Kiao Chou bay, for which point, as already stated, they were sent out, they will bring the German force there up to 4,666 men, the largest body Germany has ever sent beyond European waters. It is understood that the reserves had to be drawn upon.

Surgeon-General Wyman, of the marine hospital service, has submitted his annual report to Secretary Gage. It shows that during the fiscal year ended June 30, 1897, the total number of patients treated at hospitals and dispensaries connected with the service was 54,477. Although the total number of patients treated was 673 in excess of those treated during the previous fiscal year, the expenditures were \$698,536, which is \$21,000 less than the previous year.

The annual report of James H. Eckles, controller of the currency, for the year ended October 31, 1897, opens with a brief resume of the history of the legislation which constitutes the present National bank act, and invites the attention of congress to amendments to the law recommended in former reports, without specifically repeating them. The controller renews his recommendation of last year, urging that national bank examiners be paid an annual salary instead of fees, as now.

Further information from Washington respecting the proposed canal and looks for the channel at the dallas is to the effect that it is proposed to push the work with a deal of rapidity. The contract system and modern methods of excavation and building have made it clear that years need not be spent upon a work of this character. If the contract for improving the Columbia by a small channel at the dallas is adopted it will no doubt be stipulated that the work must be done with rapidity.

The insurgents have literally wiped out the Spanish town of Guisao of 800 inhabitants.

Senator McBride of Oregon, has introduced a bill in the senate to aid in the construction of an aerial tramway and railway line from Dyea to Lake Bennett.

Three thousand horses, worth \$300,000, lie beneath the snow on the White pass trail. Six hundred campers represent an investment of \$500,000 for outfits and provisions.

MRS. M'KINLEY DEAD.

The President and Other Members of the Family at the Deathbed.

Canton, O., Dec. 14.—Mrs. Nancy Allison McKinley passed from this life at a few minutes past 2 this morning, with all her children and other immediate relatives at her bedside. She did not suffer any in her last hours, but gradually passed from the deep, pained sleep, in which she had rested almost constantly for the past 10 days, into the sleep of death.

No word could be secured from the house for some hours before dissolution. At 2:35 an undertaker was summoned and the first publicity was given of the death.

The end was almost beautiful in its peacefulness. She seemed to sleep so soundly that it was difficult to tell whether she had yet breathed her last. This condition continued for half an hour. The president and all of the family were by her side.

There was no recognition, however. Her last consciousness was hours before her final taking away.

The tenth day of Mrs. McKinley's illness was marked by a number of material changes such as improved the condition of the patient, and as darkness approached it was felt by those around her that she had finished the last day of her life's journey. She was resting comparatively easy at that time, but was a great deal weaker. At the dawn of day it was felt that the end was at hand, for about that time she experienced one of the sinking spells common to the illness, and for a long time seemed so nearly insensate that it was thought no rally was possible; but the rally came, and with it a small amount of liquid nourishment, the first she had taken since Monday.

This was followed by such peaceful repose as to revive the hope, which was realized, that she would live through the day.

In the afternoon another period of anxiety was experienced by the watchers. Another sinking spell came, and for a time it seemed as though it would be the last. After that, she continued weak and low.

The doctor called at 5:30 o'clock and reported that he found a material change for the worse, such as he regarded as certain to bring about final dissolution during the night. He had not even a faint hope that she could live until morning.

AN IMPROMPTU COURT.

Trying to Fix the Responsibility for the Smith Murders.

Hazlehurst, Miss., Dec. 14.—In an open field, without a house in sight, on a high hillside, with a crowd of men waiting to witness the terrible murder that has taken place in Lawrence county, in case a conviction was reached by the impromptu court, the scene lighted by flaring pine-knot torches held aloft in the hands of the waiting mob, the three negroes, Giles Berry, Will Powell and Tom Wallen, were standing trial for their life last night at Bankstone Ferry.

The negroes were arrested with Lewis, who was lynched Friday, at the place of the original crime, but were released on their promising to appear next morning as witnesses. They did not put in an appearance when the trial was ready to begin. Search was made for them by the mob, and the negroes were recaptured and brought back. Then the suspicion that they were implicated in the original crime arose. According to their own story, they were with Lewis the night before. The three men testified that they slept in a cottonwood a mile and a half from the Smith house, where the terrible butchery took place, and that Lewis was with them all night at least he was there when they went to sleep and was there when they awoke the next morning.

There are about 200 men in the mob constituting a committee of the whole for the trial. Reliable reports today from a messenger who was at the scene say that the mob is very moderate in its acts, and has cooled down considerably. Berry and Wallen, though badly scared, maintain their denial of any complicity in the crime.

A telephone message from Hon. Walter Catohings, of Georgetown, states that two other negroes have been arrested on suspicion.

Wesson, Miss., Dec. 14.—The three negroes arrested in the Monticello neighborhood in connection with Charles Lewis, the negro lynched for the quintuple butchery of the Smith family, after a long trial were declared not guilty, but were given until Monday to leave the county.

Convicted of Wife Murder.

Bakersfield, Cal., Dec. 14.—David Davidson, the Randburg wife-murderer, was today convicted of murder in the first degree, with the penalty of life imprisonment. He is said to be the son of a prominent St. Louis physician. The defense was insanity, and during the trial Davidson appeared obvious to his surroundings, but expert declared that he was shamming.

Education of Deaf Children.

Washington, Dec. 14.—The house committee on education has reported favorably the bill to aid the educators in the states and territories in teaching articulate speech and vocal language to deaf children before the age of school age.

A Mexican Execution.

Matamoros, Mex., Dec. 14.—Pantacion and Victoriano Guillen were shot in the jailyard this morning for the murder of Dr. Manuel Carpio. Five policemen were in the firing platoon, and neither man was killed by the first discharge.

Antigo, Wis., Dec. 14.—L. E. Bookman, cashier of the defunct Antigo bank, was arrested today on a charge of embezzlement. His shortage will reach \$13,000.

THE ROOT OF THE EVIL

Convention to Consider Primary Election Reforms.

PROMINENT MEN SIGN THE CALL

Conference Will Be Held in New York in the Middle of January—Effect on State Legislatures.

New York, Dec. 14.—The following call was given out tonight by Ralph M. Easley, secretary of the Civic Federation of Chicago, who has been acting for a committee on reforms of quasi political organizations for the past three weeks:

"The object of this conference is to bring together men with practical ideas from all the large cities, and especially from states in which substantial progress has been made in reform. The programme will include speeches made by men of national reputation in both political parties, as well as reports from practical men as to the working of the various laws now governing primary election canons. Considerable attention will be given to the question 'How to get voters out to the primaries,' after fair laws are secured. Special interest will be taken in reports from New York, Massachusetts, Maryland, Illinois, New Jersey and Ohio, where legislatures will be in session. Headquarters will be opened at the Hotel Manhattan, New York, December 27, 1897."

"Believing that our canons or primary election customs or laws lie at the very root and source of our entire elective franchise system and that the results in our larger cities are due in a large measure to the defects in such practices and customs, it is therefore follows that to purify this system is to take a long step in the direction of honesty, economy and efficiency in every branch of the public service; and further believing that the enactment of laws to prevent corrupt practices and throw the safeguards of a regular election around the caucus or primary will encourage many good citizens to take part therein, we, the undersigned, for the purpose of discussing and discovering, as far as possible, the precise defects in the various systems which now obtain, and the remedies, and take such action as may seem necessary in the premises, do hereby join in calling a conference of persons interested in said questions to convene in the city of New York, on the 15th day of January, 1898."

INDIAN TERRITORY QUESTION

Congress Will Settle It in a General Bill.

Washington, Dec. 14.—The indications are that this congress will pass a general bill for the entire rehabilitation of Indian territory. The measure as now planned is to make it embrace everything that has been sought to be accomplished in the past by the Dawes Indian commission, which is still negotiating with the five civilized tribes, but which will be here next week to report the discouraging existing conditions. The bill covers all the questions of citizenship, allotments of lands, dispositions of townships, mineral lands, jurisdiction of the United States courts over the present reservations and other matters bearing on the extinguishment of tribal organization. The first step in the matter have been taken by the Indian committees of both the senate and house.

It is understood that in a few days there will be a session of the committees at which these matters will be gone over and steps taken in the way of settling the problems by congressional enactment. In view of the large amount of work necessary to be done, however, it is not probable that any bill can be passed till well toward the end of the session.

Bad Philadelphia Fire.

Philadelphia, Dec. 14.—The broke out shortly before 10 o'clock tonight in the six-story building at 809 and 811 Chestnut street, occupied by the manufactory firm of John & James Dobson as their wholesale and retail rooms. The fire had its start in the basement, and the flames shooting up the elevator shaft destroyed the entire interior of the building and contents. General Manager Berry, of the Dobson carpet house, stated that the stock in the building would amount to \$500,000. The building was owned by the firm, and was valued at about \$60,000.

Haytian Ministry Resigns.

Port au Prince, Dec. 14.—The ministry has resigned. As yet, the composition of its successor has not been definitely settled, but several well-known men are mentioned who will command the confidence of Haytiens and foreigners alike. This morning, while attending mass at Notre Dame, President Sam made a circuit of the city on horseback escorted by his staff officers, but without special military display.

China Forced to Yield.

Peking, Dec. 14.—The German-Chinese difficulty is practically settled. The Germans refuse to discontinue the occupancy of Kiao-Chou bay. The governor of Shan Tung province has been removed from office, but will not be any further degraded. No monopoly of mines and railroads is conceded Germany, but that country is given a preference. Finally, the area immediately surrounding Kiao-Chou bay is set apart exclusively for Germany. China yields on all other points.

RIVERA A FREE MAN.

The Cuban Patriot Released From Cabañas Fortress.

Havana, Dec. 13.—General Rivera, the insurgent leader, who was captured in March last in Pinar del Rio by the Spanish troops under General Hernandez de Velasco, and who was recently pardoned by royal decree, has been released from Cabañas fortress, where he has been imprisoned for several months, and sailed today by the steamer Colon for Cadiz, his home.

The Colon also carries back to Spain 800 sick, wounded and otherwise incapacitated soldiers.

In the skirmishes of the last ten days the insurgents have lost 113 killed and 1,000 prisoners. Eight chiefs and 40 officers and 53 armed privates have surrendered to the Spanish. The Spanish column, in the same period, has lost five officers and 22 soldiers killed, with 11 officers and 110 soldiers wounded.

Juan Cossio, who was in charge of the insurgent dynamite corps in the province of Puerto Principe, is dead at the insurgent camp. He was a cousin of Evangelina Cossio.

The insurgents fired a cannon shot into the machinery of the plantation of Mr. Rigby, an American, in the Manzanillo district, destroying the machinery. The insurgents have forbidden grinding in that neighborhood, under threat of burning the fields.

The Fight in Pinar del Rio.

Havana, Dec. 13.—Latest reports of the late fight in Pinar del Rio province show the Spanish loss was more than claimed. The dead or wounded include one colonel, one major, seven captains, 41 subordinate officers and 24 privates. Most of the wounded will die. The rebel loss was 14. The rebels used explosive bullets.

Want De Lome Recalled.

New York, Dec. 13.—The Spanish colony in this city has been divided by a petition sent to Madrid at the time of the assassination of Premier Canovas, asking for the appointment of a strong successor to Senor de Lome. According to the World the petition was drawn so as to attack Senor de Lome without mentioning his name, and among the 40 prominent signatories who signed it were several friends of the minister, who did not see any attack upon him in the apparently harmless recommendation. The result is a bitterness among the factions almost as strong as their hatred of the Cubans. The petition says:

"Spain to succeed in her relations with the United States she must have in Washington a representative of ability and firmness, whose heart will beat with the pulsations of our mother country, and with a head balanced to base all his diplomatic relations on an indisputable right, and not allow the right to be curtailed in the least by unfounded demands or unjust pretensions from the opposing party."

Insurgents Near Havana.

New York, Dec. 13.—A dispatch to the World from Havana says: An important battle is expected hourly. The insurgents have planned the most formidable demonstration against Havana of the year. General Farrago has started from this city with a strong column of troops to meet the insurgents. Senor Canelajas, the confidential agent of the Spanish government, went with him to ascertain the real conditions in Havana province.

General Rodriguez, with the combined Cuban forces under Juan Delgado Ladado and Rafael Zaldarria, is encamped about 20 miles south of here. He has fully 1,000 men, who are well armed and is said to have a Hotchkiss rapid-fire cannon.

Emio Consalo has handed Antonio Rivera and a negro named Osman. They went to Consalo from Blanco with money and a proposition that he lay down his arms and accept autonomy. A note was pinned on the breasts of the hanged men announcing that any one coming on a similar mission would meet a like fate.

Starving Cubans in New York.

New York, Dec. 13.—The Journal and Advertiser says: Weeks' policy of extermination, which he called re-concentration, has resulted in an enormous influx of Cubans into New York. Hundreds if not thousands of them are dying of hunger here. The number of these refugees is variously estimated from 12,000 to 20,000. Perhaps the greatest misery is absolutely without means. There are men and women among them who were worth thousands of dollars before the war began, but are now penniless. Some of these are working as waiters, porters or seamstresses.

Emilio Agremonie, president of the Marti Charity Association, says that many of them have actually died from starvation, and that the majority have preferred to live quietly in misery rather than let their desperate wants be known to those who could help them, but who have in the past known them to be people of wealth, influence and refinement.

Spain Accuses Cubans of Cruelty.

New York, Dec. 13.—A Herald dispatch from Madrid says: A storm of indignation has been provoked here by news of tortures inflicted by the Cuban rebels upon inhabitants of Guisa, where women and children are alleged to have been bound and buried alive. The details are given by the Imparcial, a paper by no means favorable to the present government's policy, and the news is now officially confirmed. One of the ministers says that as far as known at present the only crime the unfortunate creatures appear to have been guilty of is that they favored the acceptance of autonomy.

Reno, Nev., Dec. 13.—A wreck occurred on the N. C. & O. railway about five miles north of this city this morning. Two or three passengers are reported to have been injured.

THE ELLIS ISLAND FIRE

Is Supposed to Have Been Set by Incendiaries.

INVESTIGATION WILL BE MADE

Ten Millions of Railroad Tickets Were Thought to Have Burned—One of Them Turns Up.

New York, Dec. 13.—Facts have come to light that suggest the possibility that the mysterious fire that destroyed the great immigrant buildings on Ellis island a few months ago, was started by thieves, who had carefully planned a \$10,000,000 robbery, says the Journal and Advertiser today. Ten of the trunk lines leading to the West, including the New York Central, the Pennsylvania, the Erie, the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western and the New York, Ontario & Western, unite in maintaining a railroad on the island, and at all times there are quantities of tickets there.

General Ticket Agent Robinson, of the Ontario & Western, says that on the night of the fire a conservative estimate would place the value of tickets in the island office at \$10,000,000.

The tickets, with much cash, were locked in drawers in wooden cases and desks, and the entire parcel was supposed to have been totally destroyed. The different roads posted notices that if tickets of a certain form and series should be presented, they should be taken up and fare demanded.

A few days ago a ticket issued by the Ontario & Western from Chicago to Kansas City was received from a passenger and found to be one of the tickets supposed to have been burned. The part of the ticket calling for passage from New York to Chicago has not yet been presented.

Now the officials are asking how many other tickets out of the \$10,000,000 worth are in existence. It is deemed not impossible that the entire lot was stolen and held until conductors should report the warning.

Commissioner Senger, who was in charge of Ellis island at the time of the fire, deems the hypothesis by no means improbable.

"The origin of the fire was never learned," he said. "It began in a tower of the main building some distance from the offices occupied by the railroad people. Every one of the government guards were busy getting the immigrants safely out. It is not impossible that thieves deliberately started the fire in the expectation, justified by events, that the ticket office would be quickly deserted."

General Ticket Agent Robinson said he could scarcely believe that any such wholesale robbery had taken place.

"I have communicated with other roads, and they have had no such tickets presented as yet. I think it more likely that the report of sales for the day preceding the fire was not correct. Of course, though, if someone had used that ticket, if it was honestly disposed of, it should have turned up sooner. An investigation will be made."

TRAIL TO KLONDIKE.

Several Lives Lost in White Horse Rapids.

Victoria, Dec. 13.—Five or six, and perhaps seven, lives have been lost in the White Horse rapids, Lewis river, during the last two months, according to John Hepburn, who arrived from there today. A boat built for four or six men was found below the rapids one morning, but there was no trace of the occupants. They must all have been drowned. Other parties lost their outfits, but managed to save their lives.

There is now very little open water between the rapids and the lakes, most of it being frozen over.

At White Horse rapids there are about 30 people, and there are 35 at the foot of Marsh lake. There are at least 100 more below White Horse rapids, and many others have gone into the Hootalinga country to prospect during the winter. Hepburn had heard of no strikes being made on the Hootalinga or tributaries, but a man named Davis washed \$11,600 from the river bars last summer. Hepburn believes that rich strikes will be made on the Hootalinga this winter.

At Tagish house, the weather was bitterly cold, the thermometer registering 42 degrees below. People were met making their way down all along the route to head of Lake Bennett. Among the goldseekers was a woman, who was pulling her sled all alone, and she was making fair time.

Lake Bennett was still open 15 miles from the foot, on November 17, and the mercury stood at 24 below.

Attempt on the Sultan's Life.

London, Dec. 13.—The Athens correspondent of the Chronicle says that on Monday last, two soldiers in the imperial service at the Yildiz Kiosk, the palace of the sultan, made an attempt on the sultan's life. This was frustrated by the attendants of the sultan. The sultan had the men tortured in the hope of extracting the names of the instigators, but both succumbed without revealing anything.

China Gives In.

London, Dec. 13.—A dispatch from Peking says that today the teung-li-yamen telegraphed the viceroy of the province of Pe-chi-li, north of the province of Shan Tung, that China, having complied with her demands, Germany undertakes to evacuate Kiao Chou at a date to be fixed hereafter, and will receive instead as a coaling station the Sam-Suh inlet, in the province of Foo Kien, against the island of Foo-moa.

OREGON STATE NEWS.

Brief Review of the Week Throughout the State.

Thirty-four marriage licenses were issued by the Marion county clerk in November.

Fishermen on the Umpqua are shipping sturgeon overland via Drain to Portland.

Four panthers were killed near Marshfield last week. One measured 2 3/4 feet from tip to tip.

Manager Dorwin increased the force at the Jewett mine and will hereafter run night and day shifts.

Samuel Henry, a veteran of the civil war, celebrated his 94th birthday anniversary at Jacksonville last week.

It is estimated that over 20,000 boxes of apples have been shipped from the Coquille valley this season, and there are several carloads yet to be forwarded.

The owners of the Oregon Bonanza mine contemplate running a blind tunnel, to begin on the Powell creek side of the mountain and extend westward a distance of 800 feet.

Another shipment of Wallowa county beef cattle was made from Elgin the latter part of last week by a Chicago dealer. It was paid 3 1/4 cents for the steers weighed at Joseph.

A lot of cattle were recently bought on Smith river, in Lane county, and driven to Harrisburg. The average weight of 16 of the band was estimated to be 1,750 pounds each.

A three-foot ledge of bituminous coal has been found in the south end of Jackson county, as good as that produced in eastern states. Indications are that the vein is very extensive.

The judgment in favor of the state of Oregon and against Baker county has been received in Baker City, and a levy will have to be made to raise the amount of the judgment, \$10,928.60.

It was blowing a gale when the Chilkat crossed the Coos bay bar Monday, and two tremendous seas boarded the little steamer. Her stern was stove in, and she is at North Bend, undergoing repairs.

An old store building, a landmark at Uter City, Coos county, collapsed during the recent storm. As many surveys started from the old building as a corner, some trouble will be caused in running lines.

It is a foregone conclusion that we will be treated to the operations of a first-class English mining company, in the Ashland district very soon, as one of the best and largest quartz mines is now being listed on the London market.

At the Clackamas hatchery about 1,000,000 young fish have been turned out so far this season. There are now about 5,000,000 eggs in the troughs in all stages of hatching. The eggs were obtained from the Little White Salmon river station, in Washington.

There was a heavy run of salmon in the Siuslaw this year, and at the Florence cannery 3,500 cases of canned salmon and 600 barrels of salmon were recently shipped to San Francisco. Mr. Hurd says that 10,000 cases could have been put up had the market price justified.

During the last two months one man has shipped from Brownsville, to outside markets, 1,150 turkeys, 450 chickens, 71 geese and 95 ducks, making a total of about 15,000 pounds of poultry shipped by him alone. There are several other poultry buyers in Brownsville, who have shipped a large amount also.

There have been shipped from Medford station this season thus far about 40 carloads of apples, and there remain to be shipped yet 20 carloads more, mostly to Michigan. There is a good demand for Oregon apples in the East, but they must be salable. This company has dried 8,000 pounds of apples, which were not good keepers. It is also now arranging to carry out the experiment of drying vegetables for the Alaska trade.

The Alabany Fruit Company has shipped to Davenport, Ia., 600 boxes of Oregon winter apples. The company is also arranging to ship a carload of winter apples to Michigan. There is a good demand for Oregon apples in the East, but they must be salable. This company has dried 8,000 pounds of apples, which were not good keepers. It is also now arranging to carry out the experiment of drying vegetables for the Alaska trade.

While workmen were excavating a ditch in Elgin, at the intersection of Front and C. streets, last week, the depth of two feet or a little more they began to uncover human bones, and in a short time almost the entire skeleton was unearthed. A few feet further on they unearthed portions of another skeleton. From the shape of the skull found, the remains are undoubtedly those of Indians, buried long before the whites settled there, says the Elgin Recorder.

There has been received at Astoria a fish from the life-saving crew at Fort Canby that no one seems to recognize. Some pronounced it a devil fish, and others are certain it is an octopus. It is about three feet long and of dark brown color. Its girth is probably 10 or 12 inches and from the tail to the gills varies but little in size. The head is attached to the body with a sort of swivel, and the mouth is hid beneath a clump of tentacles about a foot long.

A Lake county man who left last June to assist in driving 8,000 head of sheep to Amadee, Cal., has returned. He says that the sheep were bought before shearing or lambing for \$1.78 to \$2 a head, and that Flanagan & Dunn, the purchasers, have made a little fortune on the speculation, as the culls of the band are worth \$3 a head at Amadee. He thinks their profit will be nearer 200 per cent than 100. They had a successful drive and spent the summer in the Sycan country, in Lake county.

MAID FOR KLONDIKERS

McBride Brings Up the Relief Question in the Senate

THE RESOLUTION GOES OVER

Pension Matters Were Considered in Both Houses—Beginning of a Lengthy Debate.

Washington, Dec. 11.—The senate did a considerable amount of business today, although no very important matter was considered or passed. There was very little debate. Senator Gallinger, chairman of the committee on pensions, called attention to the increasing demand for private pension legislation and requested senators in the future to be careful to see that their bills for private pensions were meritorious before they were introduced. An attempt was made by McBride to secure an appropriation for the relief of the Klondike miners, but the net result was a resolution calling on the secretary of war for all information he had on that subject.

An hour was devoted to the consideration of private pension bills and 45 were passed.

The resolution of the Pacific railroad committee asking information regarding the sale of the Kansas Pacific was passed which gave Gear and Thurston opportunity to make short speeches congratulating the country upon the settlement of the Pacific railroad question.

Some work was laid out for next week. Carter securing the right of way Monday and Tuesday for his census bill, and Lodge had the immigration bill made the unfinished business during the week.

In the House.

The house today entered upon the consideration of the pension appropriation bill and stirred up a debate that promises to continue for several days.

Several Southern Democrats offered criticisms of various classes of pensioners, and Private John Allen, of Mississippi, who led the assault in a speech replete with his characteristic humor, presented a series of amendments designed, as he said, to correct some of the glaring evils. They prohibit the granting of pensions to widows whose applications were not filed during their widowhood, and the granting of pensions to widows whose applications were based on marriages contracted after the passage of this act, and to permanently insane or idiotic minors who had reached their majority. The Northern Democrats, however, vied with the Republicans in their professions of friendship for the soldiers, and one of them—Norton of Ohio—declared that the Republicans could not make the bill too large for him. It was admitted on both sides of the house during the discussion that the \$140,000,000 carried by the bill for pensions would not cover the expenditures, but as congress would be in session, Cannon said it would be easy to make good any deficiency that might occur.

THE HOUSE PROGRAMME

Financial Legislation Will Not Be Undertaken Immediately.

Washington, Dec. 11.—Although no formal action has been taken, a pretty general understanding has been reached by leaders in the house as to the course of action in the near future. It includes the disposal of appropriation bills as fast as they are ready.

The bankruptcy bill will be reported before the holiday recess, but will not be taken up by the house until after recess.

It is understood that for the present there will be no effort to take up financial legislation on the floor of the house. This is due mainly to the impression that the committee on banking and currency will not be able to reconcile many conflicting interests inside the committee. When it becomes evident the committee on banking and currency is at standstill, then the ways and means committee will frame a bill on broad lines, calculated to meet the present financial requirements. The disposition of house leaders will be to keep radical legislation to the rear.

The Aided Railroads.

Washington, Dec. 11.—In the house today, Mr. Fleming, of Georgia, introduced a bill authorizing an investigation of the books, accounts and methods of railroads which have received aid from the United States. It provides that, in the president's judgment the secretary of the treasury shall redeem or otherwise clear off the paramount lien, mortgage or other encumbrance of government-aided railroads by paying the sum lawfully due out of the treasury, or may bid and purchase for the United States the property, subject to such encumbrance, at any sale or sales made under any order of the court or any judgment or decree of foreclosure of such encumbrance, or of any lien or mortgage or interest of the United States.

Indian Affairs.

Washington, Dec. 11.—The house committee on Indian affairs today began its investigation of the problems in Indian territory. It was a long session, and the result was a call for the Dawes commission and all others interested to appear before it next Tuesday.

St. Louis, Dec. 9.—The dead body of

Loo Fook Gwey, known as the king of the highlanders, who several days ago tried to rob another Chinese, was found tonight in a room in Chinatown. At the time of the attempted robbery both men fired at each other, and a trail of blood left by Lo Fook, while making his escape, showed that he had been wounded.